

EVENING LEDGER

PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY

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goal. The march of social evolution has proceeded along well-defined laws of progress. It is wrong to say that we are groping in the dark. We are moving ever onward with an increasing impetus and momentum.

When the Stage Is a School

THE State of Arkansas has done well in passing its comprehensive child labor law. It has erred only in classing the child actor with children in "hazardous employments," and debarring him from work when under sixteen.

Conservation of Living Resources

SAFETY first, last and all the time is the slogan that civilization in America has adopted after a series of accidents and tragedies which attracted public attention to the value of prevention.

"Mad Anthony."

ANTHONY COMSTOCK has made another blunder. Sniffing round Broadway, instead of keeping to his excellent and useful work as a curb on deliberate, printed "smut" of various kinds, he has come a cropper over "The Beautiful Adventure."

New Duties and Old Troubles.

DOCTOR CHALMERS' sermon topic, "The Expulsive Power of a New Affection," finds illustration in more than one instance. Where is the new passion for the British Empire? A new duty compels us to forget an old grievance.

Two-For-a-Quarter Lives.

UNDER an administration of the Southern Democracy the country is ready to go farther than "buying a bale" to preserve the cotton planter from financial decrepitude. Secretary Daniels has come out for cotton clothing. Perhaps he has his eye on a winter vacation in Florida.

Poland Should Be Free

OF ALL the claims made by the subject peoples of Europe in the present conflict, that of the land of Chopin, Schenckiewicz and Paderewski deserves particular attention.

The Sure Struggle Upward

THE history of all society is the history of strife and struggle. Out of the conflicts of the ages has risen the modern structure of civilization.

PASSED BY THE CENSOR

CHIEF POSTAL INSPECTOR CORTELYOU, of the Philadelphia district, who is a brother of George B. Cortelyou, once a newspaperman but now descended to a mere financier, is a busy man.

Not so long ago members of the Cabinet, Senators, Congressmen, Governors, Mayors and others in public office were deluged with letters, evidently emanating from an unbalanced brain.

IN A SPIRIT OF HUMOR

Recognition. Instead of the usual "notice to staff" the city editor has caused to be placarded in the news room a "notice to gentlemen of the staff."

Ye district, street and rewrite men who yearn for the days of old, When the saucy scribe with his diatribe was a bit of a common scold;

Ha! done ye score for the newer game and the one-time mighty pen. Hereafter ye are gentlemen who batter the type machines.

Natural Weapons.

Glimet eyes. The hook nose. The biting tongue. The hatchet face. The cutting voice.

He Lived in Boston.

There was a young fellow named Murray, Who knew not the meaning of hurry; And when he was chided He laughed and derided.

Unlimited Opportunity.

The publisher was in despair. "What's wrong?" asked the eminent author. "My best advance notice man has left me. He's writing letters for breach of promise plaintiffs."

Naturally.

"I say, old man, you're looking rather drawn." "Yes, I've just had a tooth pulled."

Not Yet Decimated.

Przemysl still holds out, only three of her consorts having been put out of commission by the Russian guns.

Yes, Where?

Where, where is Whitcomb Riley now? His rhymes we seldom see. Remember how he used to write Step-ladder poetry?

Architecturally Speaking.

Shooting at the towers of ancient cathedrals is something to which not to aspire.

Censored.

"Does your wife bathe?" The girls on the beach make some pretty pictures. "My wife has no time to join in making pictures. She and some others have formed a board of censorship."—Pittsburgh Post.

Vegetable Gardens.

"You should by all means have an Italian garden," said Mr. Nurich. "And we'll plant some spunkheit."—Kansas City Journal.

Not a Bit Heroic.

"Why don't you see that your daughters learn to cook?" "Why should I? They wouldn't cook for me. Let their husbands supply the material for them to practice on."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Synonymous.

Tommy Figgjam—Paw, doesn't "reverse" mean "back"?

More or Less.

This war, indeed, Is mixed up so The more you read The less you know. —Kansas City Journal.

Great Guns!

Brander Matthews says the war will stimulate literature. Possibly somebody will write a book on the "six best shells."—Detroit Free Press.

Disillusioned.

In Denver they tell of a young Britisher who will some day inherit a title, and who has long ago married a daughter of a supposedly wealthy family of that town.

Divorce in Kansas.

The divorce court representing equity and a fair division of property, making two out of that, is the best branch of the administration of justice.

CURIOSITY SHOP

Written on a hackman's slate in Kennebec, Me., was the following: "Joe, send hucks and wagons in time to carry the following to the big harbor train: one wife, two curses, three servants, four children, five trunks, four values, three grips, two bundles, one Me."

THE PHRASE "GOSAMER DAYS"

The phrase, "gossamer days" was originated in the legend that one Saturday evening a maiden was spinning fine thread in the moonlight. The moonlight drew her up into the sky and now she may be seen spinning in the moon. When "gossamer days" set in, in the early autumn, the white threads she spins may be seen floating about in the air.

Jack Ketch, the English hangman, was first mentioned in 1578. It was he who beheaded Lord William Russell and later the Duke of Monmouth. His successors have been popularly known by his name.

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DONE IN PHILADELPHIA

MORE serious attention to markets has been given lately than at any time since 1859, when the city had time for little else. But the occasion which drew attention to the erection of market houses all over the city 50 and more years ago had nothing to do with reducing the cost of living.

We are now beset with that problem in addition to the one of convenience, which was all that seemed to call for consideration in 1859. The establishment of a farmers' market at 69th and Market streets, where farmers from the surrounding country, and as far away as Lehigh and Northampton Counties, may bring their products to Philadelphia, promises to be a very interesting experiment.

CONTRIBUTIONS THAT REFLECT PUBLIC OPINION ON SUBJECTS IMPORTANT TO CITY, STATE AND NATION.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—The story of the death of the former Duma representative, Desheparitz, which appeared in your paper today, prompts me to say a few words about the "Jews" and their "Jewishness."

"Dear Jews," I was in Kishineff on that fateful day of April, 1903, which has gone down into history as the day of the Kishineff massacre. On that day, the holy day of Easter, some 50 Jews were killed, several hundred wounded and their homes destroyed by the gangs of hoodlums, who, with orders from "above" and with the aid and encouragement of the police and military, exacted a terrible toll.

In those days the city fathers did not have authority to create loans and sell bonds for municipal improvements. When they desired to extend the market sheds another square, they had to borrow from some Philadelphia philanthropist who had civic pride enough to advance the necessary money.

By 1816 the market sheds extended westward on Market street to Eighth street, where they stopped. There were also the sheds on Second street, north and south, and these still remain. Later in the last century similar sheds were erected by the District of Spring Garden street, in Girard avenue, by the Penn Township, and in Balnibrain, then Shippen street, and in Moyamensing avenue by the District of Southwark.

Those market sheds were the Civil War. All went to market before the Civil War, survived until about 25 years ago, and visitors to the city, especially those early European travelers who came here to look us over like some rare and astonishing tribe that had done well under civilization, wrote enthusiastically about Philadelphia and her markets.

When Philadelphia started to regain its commerce and was doing a larger manufacturing business than any other city in the country, in the early 50s, the business men on Market street began to demand the removal of the market sheds. They might be convenient, but they did not believe it. They declared business demanded that the main business thoroughfare should present a better appearance, now that the city had become a metropolis by the consolidation of all political parts of the county.

Accompanying this agitation for the removal of the sheds was a movement for the erection of market houses in the central part of the city. A good many business men, probably to assist in the removal of the sheds more than from any idea that the investment would prove profitable, took shares in numerous market companies that were started. For a few years there was a veritable craze for erecting market houses. Other sections of the city became inoculated with the spirit, and market houses arose in virtually all of the populous centers. Some of the speculations proved failures, or at least enjoyed little success, but some of them are still in being.

FINALLY, in 1859, Councils agreed to the removal of the sheds from Market street, and then the market houses began to assume importance. The Eastern Market was erected on the site of the Bourse. The Franklin Market erected the building now used by the Mercantile Library. Indeed, this building was never occupied as a market, and the statue of Franklin, which was cut by Baily and adorned the platform over the entrance, was later erected on the Public Ledger Building. At Twelfth and Market streets two market houses were built, the Twelfth Street Market and the Farmers' Market. These have been superseded by the Terminal Market. Above Sixteenth street on Market another market house went up, and still another at Nineteenth street.

But they were put up in so many quarters that the housewives soon appreciated their convenience, and the old, ungainly sheds were never missed. GRANVILLE.

WHAT HAS PENROSE DONE?

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—I am glad you are devoting the editorial columns of the Evening Ledger to a campaign against the election of Penrose.

Very interesting was a recent editorial telling of the discovery of an intoxicating mushroom and its description by Doctor Verrill, of Yale. An intoxicating mushroom must surely prove a popular delicacy, especially if, as the discoverer asserts, it has no bad after-effects. I have long been interested in the scientific standpoint, I assure you—in the use of alcoholic stimulants from ancient to our times.

"The Banquet" of Plato is chiefly fascinating in that it gives a vivid picture of the habits of philosophers. Socrates is described as passing his cup until morning. Jack London and Will Levington Comfort are the most recent confessors along this line. It indeed seems all the struggle against the "redoubtable John" has been in vain. As you say, perhaps the reign of Bacchus may be over. But can you tell me where the delectable inebriating fungus can be secured? F. R. G. Philadelphia, September 23, 1914.

UNIVERSITY OPPORTUNITIES IN U. S.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—in an essay on universities and research work, written by Hamilton Wright Mable before the slogan of "Educated in America" was created by war conditions, the author has this paragraph:

"Opportunities for advanced work in the American universities are now so ample that study in foreign institutions, while not without its advantages, is no longer a necessity, and the number of Americans in German universities has greatly fallen off."

The whole essay is a substantiation, by means of concrete facts, of this assertion. F. R. G. Trenton, N. J., September 23, 1914.

WHAT HAS PENROSE DONE?

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—I am glad you are devoting the editorial columns of the Evening Ledger to a campaign against the election of Penrose.

You know the saying, "It is the man behind the gun that counts," applied to war. It is a much more pertinent saying when applied to politics. The prosperity of a country cannot be measured by its great material and financial development. It can only be measured really and permanently by its character as a nation.

A NON-PARTISAN VIEWPOINT

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Knowing the powerful influence the LEDGER wields in Pennsylvania, I write to you in all sincerity and ask whether you think that the influence should be directed against the re-election of Senator Penrose. I do not write from a partisan standpoint, having only in view the welfare of my State. Won't you give this your consideration? SAMUEL KUNKLE, Harrisburg, Pa., September 15, 1914.

Killing Off the Race

From the Christian Herald. From the Christian Herald, till the present time, as statisticians and historians tell us, there have been less than 200 warlike years. Up to the middle of the 19th century it was roughly computed that nearly 7,000,000 men had died in battle since the beginning of recorded history, a number equal to almost five times the present estimated population of the globe.

NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW

In spite of the high prices reported elsewhere, pork is at a discount in Washington just now.—New York World.

It is unlikely that any news derived from German sources would change the current of opinion in the United States as to responsibility for the present war.—New York Times.

Speaking of governmental economy, this would be a good time also to shut off the abuses of the franking privilege and to reduce the cost of the Congressional Record by cutting out the unspoken speeches.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The President has the emphatic support of the country in his vigorous protest against "fake" peace stories which have been sent out from the neutral Capital. They could be nothing less than seriously mischievous to the cause of peace and, moreover, must put the United States in a false and ridiculous position.—Brooklyn Standard.

There is need for the prompt opening of the Federal Reserve Bank system. There is need for a system of finance in the United States that will stabilize and localize the financial affairs of the Union—one that will be national in character and free from illicit control in the slightest degree by the bankers, financiers, and promoters of Europe, or of our own country.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The President is to be recommended for his refusal to change the Mexican policy as a result of the recent quarrel between Carranza and Villa. So far as the United States is concerned these men represent the same idea. It is the principle of self-interest that may have led him to settle the Mexican question. The fact is to be regretted, but the principle remains the same.—New York World.